have received unusually severe sentences. Judge Delaney apparently desiring to make good that part of his charge to the Grand Jury which dealt particularly with that subject.

CASTOR OIL CLAD SHOES.

A Commuting Suburbanite's Invention for

It was still snowing and the sidewalks were

overed ankle deep with show when two com-

it? Let's go in and have something to drink.

Whew!" said one. "This is a corker, isn't

They went into a place that was handy, and

while the bartender was preparing their potions

the genial heat of the place was melting down

he snow that they had brought in with them.

Glancing down at his companion's feet, one of them evinced surprise and exclaimed;

"My! I should think you would catch your

death of cold with such thin shoes on and no

same shoes right along through all the snow, slush and mud of the past two months, and

time I got caught in a rain with them on, and the most curious part of that is that the soles

are made of some sort of stuff that in its natu-

prise was caused by the fact that I had not waiked a block in the rain before I felt that the

THE SLIDING POLE.

"That first time I got caught in the wet with ence. I had worn the shoes only a couple of days, and as they came from a reputable dealer I supposed they were of good quality and would withstand at least a little water. My first sur-

overshoes,"

muters met on their way from the ferry.

THE HAZING OF SPORTNER.

REFISED FIEWS OF A GRADUATE ON THE SUBJECT OF SOPHS,

faching Rack on His Experience, Mo-Thinks That Hasing Did Rim Good, Though it May Mave Seen Bough-The Course of Sprouts He Wos Pat Through. Because the three men had not seen each ther more than two or three times sings they had been classmates and friends in one of the ig solinges ten years before, and because they therefore wanted to get to a place where ther could talk in peace and quiet, they had one to the little east side cafe where certain things were particularly good to eat, and where the ale in steins was the nearest approach to sector to be found at the price in town. Through the cigarette and cigar emoke with shich they had filled the little alcove could be dimly seen upon the wall a print of George Washington, and opposite a vigorously colered lithograph of a grisette who leared at the father of his country in true Parisian strie. From the large room without could be heard the strains of a Hungarian band playing at if for the pure love of the music rather than for their nightly wages.

"This is a queer sort of place for an Illinote man, a Down-Easter, and a New Yorker find themselves roosting." remarked the congest looking member of the trio, a short. thick-set fellow with a set to his shoulders that suggested at once the football field, and 'Does anybody know how we really got here after let's see five, seven, nine good lord; is it really nine years since we

graduated?" "Guess it is, Buck," said his vis-a-vis, a handsome, fair-haired fellow, "We must have got here by some special workings of the great law of chance,"

"Well, the great law of chance hasn't worked out so badly for us," said the first smaker, glancing first at one companion and then the other. "We seem to have come out sound in wind and limb, and even with ome remnants of respectability. As Mr. Robert Louis Stevenson sweetly puts it, we have much to be thankful for in that we have come so for through the battle with some rage of honor left, and without open shame. Cheerful person, Stevenson, on occasions." "Yes, I suppose we're all moderately suc-

conful as things go." agreed the other. "I we've escaped being, is due to Alma Mater?" Little mough of it, if we could trace back m our formative influences, is due to anything

we learned from the text books," said the third men. He was long and lanky, and wore a tired expression, the continuous nature of which had been one of the things to make him a college character in his undergraduate days. "That's true enough of you, Sportner," said the first man, "but it's more your fault than

the faculty's." "it's true of all of us here, and of nine-tenths

of the men who graduate from any of the big rolleges. Take Adon's there; he poled hard enough through his course. Got a key and all that, and yet you wouldn't dare say, Adonis. that your studies had haif the influence on you that many other phases of your college "That's true enough," said the fair-haired

man thoughtfully. "I should say that Old Trumpet taught me more than any other person or thing in college, and it wasn't in his class room, either. I got stuck at the junction with him once, and we both had to walk over. During the walk that cynical old Dutchman. as that always thought him, gave me the test definite idea I ever had that there was earthing else on earth better than having an may time as pleasantly as possible. If it had ing about cumbering the ground on the handome incompetency my grandfather left me. That's why I recken my acquaintance with Old Trumpet as the best thing in my course."

"Fut down football for me." said the thick-"It was the first and only thing to each me to live up to rules and to grind myself de vn. It also taught me to take hard knocks and keep my temper. I've had to take bard knocks since I left cottege, and I've bad to set my teeth and furnish an imitation of a while I struggled with my temper, and the ability to do it has brought me through pretty well. The \$5,000 or so I spent for my father getting myself through college waen's asted. I hope, but it would have been if I hadn't fought my way up through the scrub to the 'varsity and got a separate course of learn-

What's yours, Sportner?" asked Adonis. "Did anything ever have any influence on that

"Yes, hazing," said the lank man, "Sportner, George Washington is frowning

upon you from the wall," observed the football man. "He never told a lie."

"Oh, I know we don't believe in having any more, and I don't know that I should defend it

"Oh. I know we don't believe in haring any more, and I don't know that I should defend it ethically, but, all the same. I'm mighty serry it's a thing of the past. Of course I don't mean to say that lots of the haring that took place wasn't bretal and outrageous, but those were cases here and there. The streater part of what was done was of a harmless hattire, and I'm confident that this kind of haring aid more good to the fellows who were bazed than it ever did them harm."

Stortner's zo, a story up his sleeve," remarked the exfootball player. "Out with it, old man."

That's true, I have, and I'm going to tell it right how, when you chans have no chance of escape," and Sportner hook half a dozen buffs from his clarette, following this ue with a lone pull at his mug of ale, while the others sat back in their chairs."

When I first entered college I thought I was about he only gensine article called man. The moment I struck the town and had paid my matriculation tax I felt that I owned the place. Being a full fielded college man and a free-born citizen of these United States I considered that' had a bigger nound to swim in.

The first thing I tried for was the football back. I played for that one afternoon, and the near who had who had been in college two, three, and four years. You see, I had usen a praity big big in my school, and I didn't reall's that I had a bigger nound to swim in.

The first thing I tried for was the football back. I played for that one afternoon, and the near to the contantion that I would stick to the oid under sames. That same evening that I had no drive breather had had been in college two, three, and four years. You see, I had taken of about balf my college when hands and anothed around the didn't reall's that I felt fearfully three and sore after being pushed and handed around the didn't and so started to go to bed early. There are times when bandwas to be bed early. There are times when bandwas to do but let them in. Twe of them leader. A real scuttle would have known in a high and t

You buil hended rube put that "sir" at med of your first sentence."

the end of your first sentence.

Going to beil sir.

Got any tobacco, Freshman?

Yes.

Yes, what, you darned fruit.

Yes, tobacco.

less what, you darned fruit. Yes, tobacco. I he what, you measly green wart, you less tadd a "sir" to your phrases when you task to the foot any tobacco? I got him my box of tobacco, and both promptly processed to fill their pipes, tobacco bountes, and pockers with the contents, remarking at the same time that it was too bad that one so young as I should be addicted to the west. "Yes, sir, hey're right beside you, sir."

Yes, sir, hey're right beside you, sir."

Yes, sir, hey're right beside you, sir."

Yes, sir, hey're right beside you, sir."

Well, bring them to me.

I was tired and wanted to be left alone, so that I could crawl into bed, and those two sophs anothing around nearly drove ms frantic. gidd feel like being follied, so I told the beliew who asked my to hand him the matches, which are right under his nose, to go to the death. I thought for a minute there was going to be trouble on the spot, but the two men metric oh mo in general, and went out, leaving the dor whe open. I chosed the door, you had be irouble before long. As a prognosticator I was a howling success.

The frouble started the very next evening, I was on my way down town to my eating club for silper when three sophs met me and held no two fineers. I defied my cap and kept on was supper, sir."

which in the state of a responsible state. When

the noise had subsided and I had removed some of the sait which had been showered on me, to counternot my freshness, from my eyes, cars and heir, I was greeted from all alles with:

come of the salt which had been showered on me, to counteract my freshness, from my eyes, ears and hair. I was greeted from all sales with:

"How's mamma, Freshlo?"

"Wipe that smile off. Freshman."

"Sitt down, little man."

"Stand up, you slob."

"Yall hang you, Freshle, shut up."

"Yall hang hand hand hand hand world wall did not he were should have had sufficient excuse to make merry with me. I was made to go through all such little pleasantries as sitting in a bowl and rowing with toothpicks, and eating soup with a fork, and being severely criticized for not making rapid enough progress in dispositing of it. I was forced to make alleged odes to a chair leg, a butter knife, or any other old thing that happened to come handv, and I finally wound up by being compelled to walt on those twenty odd indians while they were at supper, Orders for hot ice cream, serambled tea, or will-o'-the-wisp on toast which were not promptly filled resulted in a renewal of the bowl and toothpick order of pleasantry.

"This scort of thing had been going on for over an hour, and I began to feel much relieved as supper drew to a close, for then I calculation the going was a supper drew to a close, for then I calculation the going was a supper drew to a lose, for then I calculation the south in the country, but I was not particularly over-joyed, inasmuch as it m

"Cheer up, yelled the next man as I

was hard work.

"Cheer up, yelled the next man as I passed, accompanying the remark with another swat of his cornstalk. Each man told me to cheer up and swatted me until I couldn't run another step.

"Now, freshman, you see the moon, don't you? said one then.

"Yes, sir."

"Well, you're a dog. Now, what does a dog do at the moon?

"This meant that I should go down on my hands and knees and bay at the luminous orb, did it to the best of my ability and was thankful that none of my girl acquaintancus were around to see me. Meantime I was getting a dog and not having a tail to wag.

"Now, freshman, our august body will start you on your academic course. We are now

around to see me. Meantime I was getting sundry lickings for the serious offence of being a dog and not having a tail to war.

"Now, freshman, our august body will start you on your academic course. We are now about to teach you the alphabes. Do you think that you can accomplish the task without assistance?"

"Yes, sir."

"Then try it."

"A. B. C. D.—"

"Hold up there, you verdant-hued child of your mamma: what have you dared to forget?"

"I remembered, and started in again." A. sir; B sir; C, sir; D, sir; E, sir; F, sir; H, sir; I, sir; S, sir; P, sir; O, sir; K, sir—. There they stopped me. and I was forcibly informed of my ignorance.

"It's plain little greenborn Willie is not a student, but he's a great football player, they eald. 'He was on the field vectoriay, lie's a marvellous tackler. Now, Willie, just go out there and tackler, some of these sheaves of corn and show us how it should be done.

"With a run of twenty or toftry feet I made a break for the first sneaf and plunged at its centre in true football style. The thing was about ten feet in diameter at the base, and never budged. I was promptly licked for having failed to knock it over. I then saw that it was either a case of knocking over the sheat or getting licked. I preferred the former, so I gritted my teeth and struck the sheaf as near the ton as I could with all the force I could muster. I was eminently successful, but after banging into about fifteen sheaves the castime began to tell on my wind and strength. The whole affair was beginning to ball on me, and I bettought myself of a way to bring the little beet o a close. When I was started for the sixteenth sheaf, instead of striang it stagenth sheaf, instead of striang it stagenth sheaf, instead of striang it sauderly purpossly missed if and landed in the diff about ten feet beyond. Then to the best of my knowledge I initiated the w. things and mons of a seriously injured man, and awaited results. They were graifying in the diff about ten feet beyond. Then to the best of my knowledge I initi

was one of the chaps that had come into my room. As he bent over I executed a terrific writte, and kicked him square in the jaw. Then with the best imitation of a hollow groan I could do, I rolled over my my bank

ja s. Then with the best imitation of a hollow groan I could do. I rolled over on my leach
seaseless. That chap were his faze in a sing
for a time, by the way. The rest of the even
ing I had a very nice time. Those souths beck
turns carrying me entil they got me to my
room, and goed hand werk it was for them.
It was hard work for me, too, because I was tel
to laurit, and if I doe much as grinned I'd
have been half killed. They not me to hed
and warehed me until 'decided to come to my
senses. Then they left."

"Why dign't we ever hear about it?" asked
the other two men in a breath.

"Oh, I was sore about it for a long time, and
the soulse didn't care to talk, about it, so it was
kept pretty quiet. But looking back new, I
can see that, rough as it was for me, that hasing was the best thing that ever happened to
me in my college course or out of it."

"Better write an alumnus letter to the facuity and recommend it as a special course,
said the football obase. "Here comes the
als. Well, here a to alma mater, no matter
how she educates us. No heel tags."

THE WORLD'S GREAT PORTS.

Some European Cities Are Gaing Ahead, While New York Is Standing Still.

Some German merchants, bankers, and imperial officials have found great encouragement in the fact established by figures that while during the last ten years the commerce of the city of Liverpool has increased forty per cent., the tonnage of vessels arriving at or departing from the German port of Hamburg has increased seventy per cent, in the same period. The geographical position of Liverpool is highly favorable to shipping, and the docks of Liver-pool, it is well known, have at large expense nade the hurbor a most destrable one in the facilities which it gives to vessir of all dimentend with the serious industrial and mercantile rivalry of the city of Manchester, and the hustness of Manchester has been greatly promoted by the Manchester canal. The German Government, in the construction of the new Baltic canal, has discriminated in favor of Hamburg. which has increased its shipping business very largely of late years at the expense of the other

which has increased its shipping business very largely of late years at the expense of the other North German port of Bremen. At the close of the Franco-Prussian war the tomage of vessels arriving in and departing from Hamburg was 2,000,000, and of Bremen in the same year 800,000. Since then the commerce of Bremen has increased about 75 cent, and that of Hamburg 300 per cent.

Notwithstanding these great gains the city of London atili retains its remarkable distinction of being the greatest port in the world for seagoing vessels, New York following not very far behind, but showing comparatively little increase. The number of ships, steel, steam or sail, which leave the port of New York in a year is about 2,000, and more than two-thirds of the total number of such vessels are registered under foreign flags. New York has gained of late years in respect of the amount of business done with European ports, but there has been no corresponding increase in the volume of business done with domestic ports, and moreover the city of New York has had to meet very strong competition from Baltimore and New Orleans, a considerable portion of the shipments of Western grain having been diverted to these ports and away from New York. The business of the port of London is very largely of a local character. London being a mart of consumption and interchange of articles arriving from other parts of England.

The four cities of London, New York keep up with the ratio of growth in mercantile business. Antworp in Belgium stands fitch among the commercial ports of the world and very near it, with a volume of tonage nearly as high is Marseilies, in France, the chief port of the Meditarranean. Havre, in France, does a considerable business, chiefly with foreign countries, in the shipping line, and Stettin, in Germany, a large business, and it is a fact ussally to be observed that a city which is the snight of the world and very near it, with a volume of tonage nearly as its observable in the United States.

ALASKA ALL STIRRED UP.

A NEW PHASE OF THE TROUBLE. SOME LIQUOR QUESTION. The Situation That Led to the Indictment

of Special Trensury Agent Murray for Libel on the Territory-A Prohibition Law That Has Not Keep Liquor Out. JUNEAU, Alaska, Jan. 13.- No other question out mining interests, and that only occasional ly, has ever succeeded in stirring up the restdent, of this town so effectually as the prosecution of liquor sellers during tile last term of court has done. The whole liquor question in Alaska has assumed a phase at last which may bring about a satisfactory settlement. Now that an official of the Federal Government has been indicted for libelling officials of the Alaskan Government by saying what a great many Alaskans have said sub ross heretofore.

the citizens of Alaska have become sufficiently energetic to take the first steps in a movement which may lend to the discovery of a way out of the liquor difficulty in this Territory. It was provided in the organio act for Alaska, which was introduced by Senator Benjamin Harrison in 1884, and constituted the only law that Alaska has, that no intextesting liquor whatever should be brought into the Territory. The officials of the Alaskan Government have never succeeded in enforcing that law,"and it is a fact that the effort to do so has at times so languished that it could only be described properly as spasmodic, Recently the officials of the Territorial Government have been very much more active in the matter.

Since the appointment of A. K. Delanev as Dis-

trict Judge there have been more successful

prosecutions of violators of the liquor law than

ever before: Judge Delaney is not personally

in sympathy with the law, but he is an up-

right man, and he believes emphatically in in-

forcing the law as he finds it. The result has

een an unusual number of convictions. There was a time, not very long ago, when the prohibitory law in Alaska was regarded practically as a farce by the white residents of the Territory. A good many men argued seriously that it never was intended to be inforced as regards the whites. All agree that it is a good thing as regards the natives. But the white, men want liquor, and they have it. Not very long ago twenty-nine salcons were running in full blast in Juneau. There was no pretence that they were anything, but saloons. Some of them added dance halls and imported troupes of variety singers and dancers from down the coast, but the whole idea of all this was simply to increase the attendance in the saloons and thereby increase the profits from the sale of liquor. Some of these saloons and dance halls dignified themselves with the title of hotel, but the purpose was all the same. Some of them had elaborately printed wine lists, from which a man could

relect almost any kind of drink known to resorts more populous if not more civilized. All this liquor was smuggled into the Territory, it had to be smuggled; it couldn't be brought in openly because the Collector, whoever he was had to make a show of enforcing the laws. To the credit of the collectors it must be said that they have usually been as active and efficient as could be expected under the circumstances. It is a matter of extreme difficulty to prevent the smuggling of liquor into Alaska. The coast line is several thousand miles long. There is only one Collector for the entire district, and he has few deputies, and very unsatisfactory means of getting about. There are 1,200 Islands between Juneau and Tongass Narrows. It's a comparatively easy matter to land a considerable cargo of liquor on almost any one of these islands. and once tanded it has never been difficult to get Indians to transfer it to any place desired, The Indians travel in cances and go about in the night time, and the absolute enforce ment of the prohibitory law would require more collectors and deputies than there are

other peeches in Alacka. In ract, the enforcement of the prebibliors are in Mains and in Kansas, and as it was in lowa.

This state of affairs was recognized by everybody in Alaska, and by no one botter chan the officials of the Territorial Government. But the state of a state of the present of the control to offenders, and everybody else resonized that fact. For a long lime, however, it was a mitter of great difficult to convict two offenders, and everybody else resonized that fact. For a long lime, however, it was a mitter of great difficult to convict. Nor was it difficult to convict to convict when the convict of the convict

THE FARMER'S HARD LOT.

CAUSES OF THE RISE OF POPU. LISM IN THE COUNTRY.

A Paper Read by Editor McKinstry of the Fredonia Censor Before the Republican Editorial Association-Exceptional Bur-dens Borne by Farmers and the Remedy. The following paper was read to the Republi-York, at its annual meeting in New York city, on Jan. 21, by L. McKinstry, editor of the Fre-

donta Censor

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE RE-PUBLICAN STATE EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION: 1 have been assigned by our beloved Secretary to present a paper on "Populism Among the Farmers." I presume owing to my residence in county largely rural in its population, and where early in the recent Presidential campaign there were reported large desertions from the Republican party among the rural votors. First, I would remark that when I speak of populism I refer not to all the peculiar tepets of that party, but rather to a general sentiment among large numbers of and especially among farmers, of dissatisfaction with the conditions of their business, and consequent desire for a revolution in public might gain by it, and anyhow that they have not much to lose.

It is a fact that the lot of the average farmer in this State has become harder and harder, especially during the past four years. And when the Boy Orator of the Platte informed the toiling agriculturfets that the cause of all their trouble was in the constitution of the currency and pointed to the fact that all the wealth; people who live on the fat of the land were against him, they naturally looked upon Mr. Bryan as a Moses who had come to lead them out of bondage and to smite those who, the said Orator insisted, were their oppressors,

being sompremised by parties interested; if is being lathy a strong and fluoro cases the sense is always a vertice of acquites, because the control of the revenue of the evenue of the true that our best people will not on, vist fer smuggling or violations of the revenue law; if it be true that our best people will not on, vist fer smuggling or violations of the revenue law; if it be true that justice is defeated by conspirates of asymon men and liquor men atanding by each other; if all these things be true the justice is defeated by conspirates of asymon men and liquor men atanding by each other; if all these things be true the justice of the court is becoming honeycombed with corruption and crime, and justice herself is being debauched in her own temple. Orimes of the character of those delineated in these reports san the very foundation of government and social order, and, if they exist here as charged they must be stamped out, and their perpetrators crushed beneath the screen arm of the law appelled of the court for the court of the court of the court of the court of the court for the court of the court of the court of the court for unishment, whether they be attorneys or jurers, public officers or private citizens, salmon men or liquor rues of this matter, These charges may be false and libelious. If they are, their fabrication and publication constitutes a crime. False charges inputing crimes as those set out in these reports original to the law of criminal licel front of the court feels that it is your duty to handle this entire matter without sloves, acting with deliberate courses and resolution, researches to the law of criminal licel front of the court feels that it is your duty to handle this entire matter without sloves, acting with deliberate courses and resolution, researches to fall the court of the most substantial citizens of Alaska. Nearly all of them are mon who have lived here for years and are familiar with all the difficulties under which the official labor in the front of things described All the circumstances favored giving populism a sympathetic ear. In the fall of prices nobody's income seems to have been reduced like that of the farmer. Aside from the multiplication of officeholders with large salaries and the general increase of public expenses, he found that if he called a physician in case of illness, or consulted a lawyer in case of business trouble, or rented a pew in church to support the preacher, or as trustee was appointed to employ a school teacher for the district, or if he aspired to afford his daughter a few music lessons, the fees in every case were the same as when he received 50 cents a pound for his butter, and sometimes more. If he needed to borrow money the interest was only 1 per cent, less than in the war period. Then he began to feel the burden of the State Care of the Insane act, which bore especially hard upon Chautauque county. We had a large and fertile county farm, on which was located a commodious and costly brick building, half of it nearly new, and, by utilizing the labor of the able-bodied insane, which was of marked benefit to them, our cash expense for the insane department was only about a dollar week each person, or \$5,200 a year for the average number of a hundred patients. Under State care our expensive asy-lum was abandoned to decay, and the county expense increased first to \$18,000 and \$19,000 a year, and then to \$27,000 when the plan came into full operation. Meanwhile the percentage of recoveries among our insane under State care was reported as diminishing, while the percentage of deaths had in creased, till a patient from the town of Ellery was brought home dead with hones broken, showing that he had been killed by a brutal attendant employed under this costly law passed in the name of philanthropy and humanity.

Again, our farmers saw a party meeting at Indianapolis and demanding that our national currency called greenbacks should be abolished. and all the profitable business of furnishing a currency for the people be handed over to private banking corporations; and those who recoffected the inconvenience, the insecurity, the disastors, and the downright robbery of the system of private bank issues prior to 1802 felt that they ought to vote with the party of protest, although it might go to the equally unreasonable extreme of advocating unlimited coinage of flat silver dollars.

About this time our farmers began to hear of a so-called "Tax Reform Association" organ-ized in this city with the avowed object of securing the exemption of all personal property from taxation and throwing all the burdens of from taxation and throwing all the nurrieus of the county and town expenses, as well as the larger share of the State expenses, upon the owners of land. The plea of that association is that unless the exemption be made, nersonal property will leave the State. Well, suppose all the farmers should leave the State. Which could we the better afford to spare? Which would you rather see vacant, a banking office or a hundred acre farm?

Next the farmer saw nine millions of dollars. Oh, no !" said the other, " I have worn these

prise was caused by the fact that I had not waiked a block in the rain before I felt that the water had soaked right up through the soles, and that the bottoms of my feet were as wet as if I had been harefooted. Then I found another peculiarity develop, and this was a source of great danger to me. The soles grew as soft and fixible as wet parchment, and the beels of the shoes and the soles also felt as if they were greased. My feet went slinping and sliding out from under me, and I had to walk with more care over the plain wet parchment than would have been necessary on smooth ice. I had to keep every muscle of my legs tense and hever let my centre of gravity yet beyond my heels or toes or I should have fallen. I had about a dozen blocks to walk, and at the end I was all tired out by the tension.

"The next day I examined these soles. They looked like leather, but were so soft and of such weak material that I could gourge pieces out of them with my thumbmal. I felt so much interested in them that I went down into the Swamp about the Brookin Bridge to find out what they were. The dealers told me they were leather, but of a kind that is generally discarded for soles or any other important purpose. They were cuts from the belig or neck of the hides, and the dealers assured me that I was not mistaken shout their ability to absorb water or to slide. Then I determined to experiment with them and see if I couldn't make good water-proof and non-slippable soles of them, and I have succeeded. I made a mixture of real beenwax-not parafilme and castor oil, half and half, melted it, and put It on the soles hot, and fided it in over the stove nutil the soles would absorb no more of it. I treated the uppers with castor oil alone. I can walk through slush all day now and the soles won't even get wet to the touch, and they are wearing as well as the best oak-tanned leather, and a little touch of castor oil on the soles won't even get wet to the touch, and they are waring to we have a number of people who have been swindled with

this is the snow, and to some the state of t Very Handy to Use Going Bown, but the Stairs Still Used Going Up. Firemen use the sliding poles in the engine houses when descending from the dormitory floors to the street floor about their ordinary affairs, just as they do when bustling down for a fire. It is the quickest and easiest way to go, and naturally they go that way always. To a man not a fireman, however, and so unaccus-tomed to it, the commonplace use of the sliding pole seems at first strange. He has seen it usually, perhaps only, from below; and the use of it is associated in his mind with the sound of the gong, the counding of the horses' hoofs, the snapping of harness, and the general bustle of preparation. To see the firemen come dropping flown the sliding poles into this scene of activity seems all right. It seems like a part of the general scheme. But if one who has been accustomed only to seeing them come down the poles in this way should happen at a time of quiet in the house to be on an upper floor, and instead of seeing firemen shoot into view should see one suddenly and silently described as the should see one suddenly and silently described by the surprising to him.

At first it seems strange to see any man, fireman or not, slide down a pole to start for his dinner, for instance, but that is what the fireman does, and it is just the same if he is going below for any duty lo the house. He goes down the pole habitually, because that is the simplest and casiest way to go. But he doesn't go back that way: easy as it is to slide down the pole, it would be mightly hard work to shin unit. When the fireman goes up, then, his everyingly else, he climbs the stairs. the snapping of harness, and the general bustle

else, he climb, the stairs,

came satisfied that the principle would ret obtain through legiciation, and therefore it would be better not to inject what might infame the opposition and possibly imperil the very important project of constitutional legislative apportionment, the adoption of which was worth to the people of the State many times the cost of our summer's work at Albany. So it was here before this association that the bail of excise reform was set rolling, and let us not forget to give the honor to that noble exemplar of our profession, Editor Murat Haistead.

I wish to add a little more concerning the farmer vote. Many who voted with us least fall did so, I might say, tentatively. They will not continue to support the party coming into power if their condition continues as hard as its. The condition in the dairy and in the wheat-growing districts has improved somewhat since it became certain that honest money and protection to American industries and a solvent national Treasury were in sight. I am confident that President McKinley and a Republican Congress will make it their first business to afford further relief. Repealing the free wool delusion will alone be worth millions of dollars to the farming industry.

The relief from national legislation must of necessity come slowly. Meanwhile, I am glad to know that there is a disposition at Albany, both in the Executive Chamber and in the Ways and Means Committee room, to economize and was possible.

A measure to reduce the ourden of interest upon datmers and all real estate owners who are

in know that there is a disposition at Albany, both in the Executive Chamber and in the Ways and Meane Committee riom, to economize and refuse the burdene of State taxation as of the east reduce the burdene of interest upon farmers and all real estate owners who are in debt. I have thought might well engage the upon farmers and all real estate owners who are in debt. I have thought might well engage the indebt. I have thought might well engage the control of the indebt. Ever few days I read of bonds of villages cities, and corporations being sold at par and above, which bonds pay only it, 305, and a percent, interest, according to circumstances.

Such asies show that there is plenty of money to lend by people who are said-fied with interest from 3 to 4 per cent. On hands which are subject to taxation. Yet there is lardly a fariner in this State who borrows money at a fariner in this State who borrows money at a fariner in this State who borrows money at a fariner in this State who borrows money at all ference on that account?

The Tax Reform Association before referred to urges that morrgages be exempted from its additional and iominate it in the bond that the rate shall be changer as a condition of the exemption? In brief, pass a law that all morrgages upon real exists which bear a rate of interest of 4 percent, or less shall be exempt from all direct taxation, it am aware that a large share on mortanges now escape taxation, but I am astished from conversation with a number of money conditions that there are morrgage on good security at a per cent, which is legally exempt from taxation, than one bearing of per cent, which is legally exempt from taxation, than one bearing of per cent, union the proper in the proper shall be account to so described to the firm the reference of the percent which is one of the proper than only in the proper shall be account to so of the proper shal

grandest, the Empire State of the United States

grandest, the Empire State of the United States of America.

No wonder that President Garfield once said:
"I never meet a little barefoot boy tramping along a country road, and think of the possibilities under our form of government that lie under his tattered paim-leaf hat, but I feel like raising my hat to him."

And I was gratified, though not surprised, to find in Gov. Black's excellent first message to the Legislature these sympathetic and loyal words. He said:
"No class does more work for small pay than farmers. No class renders greater service to the community at large or more completely meets the requirements of substantial citizenship. Their interests and occupation underlie the prosperity of the whole people. Any fust legislation should be favored which would lighten the unusually hard condition under which they the unusually hard condition under which they have suffered for the past few years."

the unisually hard condition under which they have suffered for the past few years."

POINTS ABOUT GOLF BALLS.

Some Little Hars About Their Preservation and Use That May Als the Novies.
Until the use of gutta percha, golf balls were made of feathers and wool, with a cover of Eid or leather, much like a racquet ball. Americans who visit Scotland often bring one of the old balls back as a curiosity. The ordinary gutta percha ball is red or black, with a thick cuter coating of white paint, but there are some that are white clear through. The pure gutta percha is often adulterated with rubber and other mixtures, each maker having his own process. The idea is to reduce the cost without impairing the clasticity and hardness. The ordinary retail price is \$4.50 a dozen. The difficulty of obtaining the pure gum of a uniform quality is a cause of trouble to the makers, for the players cause of trouble to the makers, for the players at once transfer their allegiance to the output of another manufacturer. Without the best gum, no maker can keep the output at a steady grade of excellence. No matter what price is

paid, it is claimed, the only test of a gum that is worth anything is the work on the links. All that the average amateurs care for is to get their money's worth of fun out of a box of in tissue paper, but it is sometimes worth looking them over to see if any of the paint has cracked off. As a general rule, the older the ball the better. If a stock of balls is laid in early in the season, they should be kept in a cool place. In the match at Ardsley, on Aug. 8. between Park and Dunn, the balls were carried on ice so that they would not soften in the intense heat, and a fresh hall was taken on every tee. The bails, while apparently hard to the touch, if kept in a warm place, will flatten from the sides in black, with the names and records tonch if kept in a warm place, will datten from the impact with the driver, and be easily out by the iron clubs. There are some devoted golfvers who keep the balls in the household refrigerator, and never play with one that has not been on "cold storage" for at least six months. One of the expensive features of the game to the novice is the cost of the balls. The heginner cust the tails badly with tapped stokes, and drives or by putting them into conds and other inaccessite places. On this account it is well to begin with made-cover balls, which are also used by many experts on practice rounds. The adoren of damaged balls is given in exchange, for \$1.25. The process of regnoiding is simple and may be done by a guiler personally with intic troubs. The old balls are allowed to be sufficiently in the same way. When contine first that marks the units of the months which is simpled like a waden lemon squeezer, and is used in the same way. When contine first that marks the units of the months which as simpled like a waden lemon squeezer, and is used in the same way. When contine first that marks the units of the use of the paint are uset put on, and the balls laid and for a few days to harden and dry.

No hard and fast rule can be made regarding the perceptible scratch on the paint, and on the paint are uset put on, and the balls laid and for a few days to harden and dry.

No hard and fast rule can be made regarding the perceptible scratch on the paint, and on the paint of the perceptible scratch on the paint, and on the paint are uset put on, and the wall perceptible scratch on the paint are uset put on, and the wall perceptible scratch on the paint are used to reduce the paint are uset put on, and the wall perceptible scratch on the paint are used to reduce the paint are uset put on, and the wall perceptible scratch on the paint are used to reduce the paint are used to reduce the produce the paint are used to reduce the paint are used to reduce the produce the paint ar the impact with the driver, and be easily cut by the iron clubs. There are some devoted golf-

RANDSBURG NOT TOO GAY.

PROGRESSIVE, BUT NOT IN THE OLD

Every Man Gets a Clean Towel at the Har. ber's, and One Lodging House Gives Clean Sheets to Every Lodger, Atthough Water Costs 80 a Barrel-A High Hot, Los ANGELES, Cal., Jan. 25 .- "The best aligir of life that I know anything about," said Frank Fitch, who has just returned from a three weeks' trip to Randsburg, "is to spend a few days in a new mining camp. Everybody there takes about new finds and rich strikes and the sale of town lots for double or treble what they cost a

week before. "That's characteristic of Randsburg, as of all new and promising mining camps, but othervise Randsburg isn't typical of places of that sort. It's rather too quiet and peaceable and domestic. Many families are there already and others are constantly coming. Nobody packs a gun and a man seldem has use for one. There vere five murders in about three months, pay a vigilance committee was formed, and the town has been quiet ever since. Now there is a court, with two Justices and two constables. There is likely to be plenty of litigation over titles before. long, for there is a cloud over all the territory upon which Randsburg is being built. That will all be settled in the courts, bowever, and the lawyers will get the fees that used to go to the Coroners. Johannesburg, Just started, two miles away, is on a school section and will have

no difficulty of that sort. ." There is plenty of the picturesque about Randsburg, even if it doesn't have the flashiesh characteristics of a mining camp. Sleeping nocommodations are rather scarce, though there must be about a mile of cots in the town. It costs from \$1 to \$2 to occupy one of these all night, but if you are short of funds and not very sleepy you can sleep haif the night for half price and then let rome other fel-low take his turn, while you sit up in a saloon till morning. One lodging bouse advertises clean shrets, and one barber shop announces in a local newspaper there are three newspapers in Randsburg and Johannesevery customer. When you remember that towels make you appreciate the fact that Randsburg lan't so peculiar as a mining camp used

to be.
"Most of the lodging houses and tents are not subdivided into rooms, and the cots are put aff

"Most of the lodging houses and tents are not subdivided into rooms, and the cots are put aff over one big floor as close together as they can be set. There is so little source wasted between them that, if you are a large main, you'll have difficulty in flading room enough to take off your clothes. There was a big man occupied the cot next to me one night, and he fassed around for some time trying to disrobe. At lest, he wooged himself is between his cot and mine and tried to pull of his boots. As he tugged, he lost his beinnes, and the whole force of liver 250 pounds went thackward onto his cot and man, boots, and bedding went smashing to the floor. He got up and swore about it is little while, but finally curied up in the setnes and went to siene. I had carried a hot water hag to bed with me, for I wasn't very well, and it got separated from me. When I touched it in the right it was as cold as ice. Half swake I toused it out, and it landed on the big man's neck. The cork came out, and the whole two quarts of water poured out on him. I've heard considerable language in my time, but I've never heard the equal of that man's remarks.

"There was a high wind one night, and along toward moraling it blee words not better any location of a cross the desert. It wasn't saituation that ordinarily would bring out a man's good nature, but those men yelled and sang and danced around, and cracked jokes at one amother until you would have thought they were having the most enjoyable time in the world.

"It stormed while I was there, and the whole camp was under a blanket of snow. Of course that put a stop to most work, and men, women, and children turned in to enjoy themselves, you would have thought they were having the most enjoyable time in the world.

"It stormed while I was there, and the man-agement amounts enjoyable time in the world." It stormed while I was there, and the man-agement amounts of improvised vehicles, the occupants of which had to take their share of snowballing, "During my stay there was a prize fight a

A COSTLY STABLE OUTFIT.

How L. G. Tewksbury Intends to Campaign Gentry and Robert J. Next Season.

Lewis G. Tewksbury, the owner of John R. Gentry, 2:00%, and Robert J., 2:01%, is pre-paring to campaign his two-horse stable next season in a style which will be a revelation to the followers of harness racing. Besides Trainer E. R. Bowne, who is wintering the horses at Somerville, he has engaged a whole train of attendants, ordered a special car to be sumptuously furnished for the kings of the turf and their retinus, together with what is probably the most elaborate and costly stable equipment ever seen on the circults.

Some time ago Tenksbury selected gold and black as the colors of the stable. Gentry and "The Jay" are to travel in a palace car, the body to be painted in old gold and lettered on the sides in black, with the names and records of the king-pin pacers and the monogram of their owner. The two borses will occupy roomy